

Enter search terms:

Advanced Search

Notify me via email or RSS

CONTRIBUTE

Why Contribute to Scholarly Commons?

Instructions for Submitting

Create Researcher Profile

Author Help

BROWSE

Collections

Subjects

Authors

Dissertations

GENERAL INFORMATION

About

FAQ

LINKS

Population Studies Center Website

About

Related Links

[Home](#) > [PSC](#) > [PSC_WORKING_PAPERS](#) > [30](#)
< [Previous](#)[Next](#) >
 Population Studies Center
PSC WORKING PAPER SERIES

High Development and Fertility: Fertility at Older Reproductive Ages and Gender Equality Explain the Positive Link

[Mikko Myrskylä, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research](#)
[Hans-Peter Kohler, University of Pennsylvania, Dept. of Soc](#)
[Francesco Billari, Bocconi University](#)

Included in
[Demography, Population,
 and Ecology Commons](#)

Document Type

Working Paper

Date of this Version

10-3-2011

Comments

Myrskylä, Mikko, Hans-Peter Kohler and Francesco Billari. 2011. "High Development and Fertility: Fertility at Older Reproductive Ages and Gender Equality Explain the Positive Link." Population Studies Center, University of Pennsylvania, PSC Working Paper Series, PSC 11-06. http://repository.upenn.edu/psc_working_papers/30

Abstract

A fundamental switch in the fertility—development relationship has occurred so that among highly developed countries, further socioeconomic development may reverse the declining fertility trend. Here we shed light on the mechanisms underlying this reversal by analyzing the links between development and age and cohort patterns of fertility, as well as the role of gender equality. Using data from 1975 to 2008 for over 100 countries, we show that the reversal exists both in a period and a cohort perspective and is mainly driven by increasing older reproductive-age fertility. We also show that the positive impact of development on fertility in high-development countries is conditional on gender equality: countries ranking high in development as measured by health, income, and education but low in gender equality continue to experience declining fertility. Our findings suggest that gender equality is crucial for countries wishing to reap the fertility dividend of high development.

Keywords

Fertility and development, Gender equality, Low fertility

Date Posted: 03 October 2011